

To: rogers, rick[rogers.rick@epa.gov]
From: Neil Winner -MDE-
Sent: Mon 6/15/2015 8:32:03 PM
Subject: Re: Contaminants in Susquehanna River in PA

Rick,

MDE was notified earlier in the week through our after hours emergency contact number and received info from PADEP. The after-hours number is answered by MEMA (MD Emergency Management Agency) in the MD joint operations center (MJOC). If it is a water-related emergency (i.e., sewage or chemical spills into a water body) they notify the emergency on-call staff from the Water Administration Compliance Program. If it is a drinking water issue (i.e., the water body is a raw water source for a SWTP), the on-call staff from my division will then be notified, and we will take responsibility for notifying all the downstream plants in MD and any other necessary follow up. I was notified by the MDE Compliance Program staff and given info forwarded from PADEP. Your additional info was also very helpful. In a significant emergency, my on-call staff (if not me) will notify me, and I will notify Saeid, Barry, and others as appropriate.

Looking forward to meeting you in the future, hopefully in a "non-emergency" situation.

Neil

On Mon, Jun 15, 2015 at 3:54 PM, rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Neil. We have not received any new information on anything related to the Susquehanna. We heard that Wrightsville collected samples for a number of parameters but results are not expected back for another four days. They were going to keep their intake closed the majority of this week since they had fire trucks from surrounding communities help them fill their raw water reservoir before anything would have made it down there. PADEP reported that none of their PWSs using the Susquehanna reported

any problems with raw water quality based on turbidity and chlorine demand.

I was going off an older printout from SDWIS to see who had an intake listed for the Susquehanna. Patti Kay is on vacation without access to our computer networks and the folks who would have maybe been able to access more recent information were not easily available Friday.

I was guessing that between dilution aided by three full or partial dam structures and their associated pools and mixing in the river before Port Deposit, there really wasn't any risk, but people have been surprised before.

Glad I caught the right person on shift. I'm sure I'll be meeting you in person at some point in the future.

I'll still let you know if I hear anything more.

Just curious, PADEP said that their emergency response folks "notified Maryland" as a precaution. Did you get word of this event through other channels? I was wondering if those channels worked and reached the right people.

Rick

Rick Rogers

ODWSWP, WPD

EPA Region 3 (3WP20)

215-814-5711

From: Neil Winner -MDE- [mailto:neil.winner@maryland.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 3:22 PM

To: rogers, rick

Subject: Re: Contaminants in Susquehanna River in PA

Rick,

Thank you for the updates! All is quiet with the MD surface water plants on the Susquehanna River. I do have a couple of updates for your files.

The Conowingo Dam no longer uses the Susquehanna River as their source or their package surface WTP. They are on a well system and use groundwater now.

Ex. 4 - CBI

Just to introduce myself, I joined MDE-Water Supply Program about 5-1/2 years ago as the ETAD Division Chief a few years after Barry O'Brien was promoted to Program Deputy Manager. I rotate in with the engineers in my division for after hours emergency duty and as it happened, this event occurred during one of my 2-week stints. Among other duties, I am the emergency coordinator and have worked in that capacity with Patti Kay Wisniewski. Thanks again for the information during this event.

Regards,

Neil

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Cell: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Sat, Jun 13, 2015 at 4:54 PM, rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov> wrote:

MDE folks:

Here's an update from Lisa Daniels at PADEP.

Wrightsville do close just as a precaution. They pre loaded their raw water reservoir and should be good the majority of week. They took samples but no results yet.

Rick

Sent from my mobile device.

On Jun 13, 2015, at 1:24 PM, Neil Winner -MDE- <neil.winner@maryland.gov> wrote:

Thanks Rick.

If you find out any more from Wrightsville, please also give me a call on my cell phone, and I will re-contact the MD SWTPs as necessary. My work cell number is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy and my home phone number is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Thanks again,

Neil

On Saturday, June 13, 2015, rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov> wrote:

Neil, Wrightsville, Pa closed their intake this morning. I am trying to find out if the detected something or if it was just a precaution.

Rick

Sent from my mobile device.

On Jun 13, 2015, at 11:21 AM, Neil Winner -MDE- <neil.winner@maryland.gov> wrote:

To All:

As a precaution, I called the WTPs with active surface water intakes in the Susquehanna River in Maryland to make sure they were aware of the fert/chem plant fire earlier in the week in PA. I gave them an update and told them although there were no impacts expected in the river in MD, to be on the alert just in case, and they could monitor for changes in TOC, pH, etc.

Neil

On Friday, June 12, 2015, rogers, rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov> wrote:

Good Evening,

This is not a drill but may not be an issue for MD. I wanted you to be aware of this, regardless and will keep you up to date as I get more information.

A large fire at a chemical/fertilizer facility in Hanover, PA resulted in nearly 4 million gallons of water used to fight the fire, which made its way to the Conewago Creek, a tributary to the Susquehanna. This fire started early Monday and firefighters let the fire burn most of the day. Firefighting continued into Wednesday. The runoff has caused a sizeable fish kill in the Conewago Creek.

The runoff from the fire resulted in the town of New Oxford closing it's intake. Modelling indicates the leading edge of the plum will reach the Susquehanna around 1:45 am Saturday.

Ex. 9 - Wells

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They've been measuring TOC. The Conewago Creek had about 18 mg/l of TOC. Modelling would indicate that the TOC levels at Wrightsville, PA will be around 2 mg/l, essentially background for the Susquehanna.

I have not seen any analytical data as to what the contaminants of concern are. They are expecting nitrates, nitrites, ammonia nitrogen and phosphate. I have not heard anything mentioned about pesticides. The company, Miller Chemical and Fertilizer, manufactures non-hazardous fertilizers and crop protection products, but pesticides are not listed.

Ex. 9 - Wells

There should be no problem at the MD facilities since PA is estimating a nearly non-detect in Wrightsville, but wanted you to know just in case.

This isn't exactly the way I would have chosen as my first contact with you since re-joining the drinking water program. If you have any questions, please call or send an email.

My cell number is 215-341-4762, same as before.

Home: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Rick Rogers

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